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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1, 24, and 52-55 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. (Canceled).
2. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method of indexing data blocks according to a collection of subject words of the data blocks, comprising:
constructing a N-dimensional coordinate space, wherein N is a cardinality of the collection of subject words of the data blocks; and
~~The method of claim 1, further comprising:~~
 traversing data block links leading to discovery of cross-subject affinities.
3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~2~~, further comprising:
 determining a closeness of any two data blocks in said database.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said determining is performed according to an equation comprising:

$$D(p^1, p^2) = \sqrt{S_{\alpha}(p^1_{\alpha} - p^2_{\alpha})^2}$$

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where D is a data block and p_1, p_2 are points in the N -dimensional space and S is a summation.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1~~2, wherein affine documents are determined to be in closer proximity than non-affine documents in a mapping to N -space coordinates.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1~~2, wherein all dimensions of said N -dimension coordinate space are considered.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1~~2, wherein said data blocks comprise documents, said method further comprising:

building a term-by-document matrix and using all of the terms in N - dimensions in the coordinate space.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:
utilizing a column term in the term-by-document matrix as a vector.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1~~2, further comprising:
measuring a distance function between data blocks, wherein said distance function is representative of an affinity between two data blocks.

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10. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ 2, further comprising:

 building a proximity list for each data block.
11. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ 2, further comprising:

 navigating through data blocks based on a content of said data blocks, said navigating
being performed by selectively moving from one page to another without traversing a
hypertext link.
12. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein said data blocks comprise
any of Web pages, images, and database entries indexed such that each data block resides in
a specific point in the N-dimensional coordinate space, and

 wherein a placement of the data blocks in the coordinate space is performed such that
data blocks which are relatively closer to each other are related to a same subject.
13. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the proximity list is ordered in ascending
order of proximity, with a closest point being listed first.
14. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising reordering the proximity list
by changing a coordinate of a current location.
15. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the proximity list is changed when a
current position is changed to a position of a visited data block.

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16. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein a user selectively follows one of a link from a data block and follows an item in the proximity list, to navigate independently of links found in other data blocks.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein said data blocks are selectively traversable by using hypertext links and by not using hypertext links.

18-21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for indexing a database, comprising:

constructing a coordinate system; and

mapping documents of said database into the coordinate system to determine a physical closeness of first and second documents of said database; and

traversing data block links leading to discovery of cross-subject affinities.

23. (Canceled).

24. (Currently amended) A computer system for indexing data blocks according to a collection of subject words, comprising:

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a construction unit for constructing a N-dimensional coordinate space, wherein N is a cardinality of a collection of subject words; and

~~The system of claim 23, further comprising:~~

traversing data block links leading to discovery of cross-subject affinities.

25. (Currently amended) The system of claim ~~23~~ 24, further comprising:

a determining unit for determining a closeness of any two data blocks in said database.

26. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein said determining by said determining unit is performed according to an equation comprising:

$$D(p1, p2) = \sqrt{\sum_d (p1_d - p2_d)^2}$$

where D is a data block and p1, p2 are points in the N-dimensional space and S is a summation.

27. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein affine documents are determined by said determining unit to be in closer proximity than non-affine documents in a mapping to N-space coordinates.

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28. (Currently amended) The system of claim ~~23~~ 24, wherein all dimensions of said N-dimension coordinate space are considered.

29. (Currently amended) The system of claim ~~23~~ 24, wherein said data blocks comprise documents, said construction unit comprising:

a unit for building a term-by-document matrix and using all of the terms in N-dimensions in the coordinate space.

30. (Original) The system of claim 29, further comprising:

means for utilizing a column term in the term-by-document matrix as a vector.

31. (Currently amended) The system of claim ~~23~~ 24, further comprising:

a measuring unit for measuring a distance function between data blocks, wherein said distance function is representative of an affinity between two data blocks.

32. (Currently amended) The system of claim ~~23~~ 24, further comprising:

a unit for building a proximity list for each data block.

33. (Currently amended) The system of claim ~~23~~ 24, further comprising:

a navigation unit for navigating through data blocks based on a content of said data blocks, said navigating being performed by selectively moving from one page to another without traversing a hypertext link.

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34. (Currently amended) The system of claim ~~23~~ 24, wherein said data blocks comprise any of Web pages, images, and database entries indexed such that each data block resides in a specific point in the N-dimensional coordinate space, and

wherein a placement of the data blocks in the coordinate space is performed such that data blocks which are relatively closer to each other are related to a same subject.

35. (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein the proximity list is ordered in ascending order of proximity, with a closest point being listed first.

36. (Original) The system of claim 32, further comprising:
a reordering unit for reordering the proximity list by changing a coordinate of a current location.

37. (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein the proximity list is changed when a current position is changed to a position of a visited data block.

38. (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein a user selectively follows one of a link from a data block and follows an item in the proximity list, to navigate independently of links found in other data blocks.

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39. (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein said data blocks are selectively traversable by using hypertext links and by not using hypertext links.

40-43. (Canceled)

44. (Currently amended) A computer system for indexing a database, comprising:
a unit for constructing a coordinate system; and
a mapping unit for mapping documents of said database into the coordinate system to determine a physical closeness of first and second documents of said database, wherein indexing said database is performed according to a collection of subject words, such that said coordinate system comprises an N-dimensional coordinate space, wherein N is a cardinality of the collection of subject words;

a determining unit for determining a closeness of any two data blocks in said database; and

a measuring unit for measuring a distance function between data blocks,
wherein said distance function is representative of an affinity between two data blocks,

wherein each said document is represented as a vector which has a position in an N-dimensional coordinate space of N subject words, such that a relationship is independent of any other document, and

wherein a document can be added to the coordinate system without impacting a measurement of any other document.

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45. (Currently amended) A ~~signal-bearing~~computer-readable medium tangibly embodying a program of recordable, machine- readable instructions executable by a digital processing apparatus to perform a computer-implemented method of indexing data blocks according to a collection of subject words, said method comprising:

constructing a N-dimensional coordinate space, wherein N is a cardinality of a collection of subject words, and

traversing data block links leading to discovery of cross-subject affinities,

wherein each data block represents a document and each said document is represented as a vector which has a position in the N-dimensional coordinate space of N subject words, such that a relationship is independent of any other document, and

wherein another document can be added to the coordinate space without impacting a measurement of any other document.

46. (Canceled)

47. (Currently amended) A ~~signal-bearing~~computer-readable medium tangibly embodying a program of recordable, machine- readable instructions executable by a digital processing apparatus to perform a computer-implemented method of indexing a database, said method comprising:

constructing a coordinate system; and

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mapping documents of said database into the coordinate system to determine a physical closeness of first and second documents of said database, wherein indexing said database is performed according to a collection of subject words, such that said coordinate system comprises an N-dimensional coordinate space, wherein N is a cardinality of the collection of subject words; and

traversing data block links leading to discovery of cross-subject affinities.

48. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein each data block represents a document and each said document is represented as a vector which has a position in the N-dimensional coordinate space of N subject words, such that a relationship is independent of any other document.

49. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein each data block represents a document and wherein a document can be added to the coordinate space without impacting a measurement of any other document.

50. (Currently amended) The system of claim ~~23~~ 24, wherein each data block represents a document and each said document is represented as a vector which has a position in the N-dimensional coordinate space of N subject words, such that a relationship is independent of any other document.

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51. (Currently amended) The system of claim ~~23~~ 24, wherein each data block represents
a document and wherein a document can be added to the coordinate space without impacting
a measurement of any other document.

52-55. (Canceled).

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